

Plant Name	Height & Spread	Evergreen or Deciduous	Description	Photo
Rosemary <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> 	Creeping: 1 foot tall, 6 feet wide Upright: 3-4 feet tall and wide	Evergreen <i>Hardy to 15 degrees</i>	Fragrant foliage. Purple winter flowers. Culinary uses. Creeping makes good groundcover. Upright makes good hedge. Deer rating: 10/10	
Wall Germander <i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>  	12-18 inches tall 12-18 inches wide	Evergreen <i>Hardy to 0 degrees</i>	Aromatic leaves are green, shiny, and have serrated edges. In late spring and early summer, magenta pink tubular flowers grow on stalks above foliage. Flowers are loved by bees. Deer rating: 9/10	
Bluebeard <i>Caryopteris</i>  	2-3 feet tall 2-3 feet wide	Deciduous <i>Hardy to 0 degrees</i>	Lush, aromatic, green foliage. Late summer flowers resemble clouds of purple-blue mist. Flowers are loved by bees. 'Worcester Gold' and 'Sunshine Blue' varieties have yellow foliage. Deer rating: 9/10	

Juniper 'Old Gold' 	2-3 feet tall 4-5 feet wide	Evergreen Hardy to minus 20 degrees	Graceful habit with ascending branches. Showy gold foliage. <i>Other varieties of Juniper may be green or blue and vary by size/growth habit.</i> Deer rating: 9/10	
Spirea <i>Spiraea japonica</i> 	2-4 feet tall 2-4 feet wide 	Deciduous Hardy to minus 25 degrees	Leaves may be green or yellow/orange depending on variety. Flat pink flowers in summer. Showy fall color. Deer rating: 9/10	
Rockrose <i>Cistus purpureus</i> 	3-4 feet tall 4-6 feet wide 	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees	A tidy, compact, sun and heat-loving shrub. Showy rose-purple blooms with maroon spots in late spring. Low maintenance. Deer rating: 8/10	
Dwarf Yaupon Holly <i>Ilex vomitoria 'Nana'</i> 	3-5 feet tall 3-5 feet spread	Evergreen Hardy to 10 degrees	Slow-growing. Green, holly foliage. Greenish-white, insignificant flowers in summer. Rounded shape. Deer rating: 9/10	

Bush Germander <i>Teucrium fruticans</i> 	4-5 feet tall 4-5 feet spread 	Evergreen Hardy to 10 degrees	Grey-green leaves with silvery-white undersides give a soft silver look. Deep blue flowers at branch tips in summer. <i>'Compacta' variety is smaller with tighter branches</i> Deer rating: 9/10	
Barberry <i>Berberis</i> 	2-6 feet tall 3-5 feet spread 	Most are deciduous Hardy to minus 25 degrees	Favorite varieties have showy red or purple leaves. Small yellow flowers in early summer, red berries in fall. Most popular varieties: Crimson Pygmy, Rose Glow, Red Rocket, Red Japanese Deer rating: 9/10	
Noell's Grevillea <i>Grevillea</i> 	3-4 feet tall 3-4 feet spread	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees	Wispy, pine-like foliage. Red-pink flowers in early spring. Deer rating: 8/10	
Boxwood <i>Buxus</i> 	3-5 feet tall 3-5 feet spread 	Evergreen Hardy to 0 degrees (foliage turns bronze in cold winter)	Slow-growing. Glossy green (or yellow variegated) foliage turns bronze during cold of winter. Insignificant white flowers in spring. Popular as hedge or topiary. Deer rating: 10/10	

Myrtle <i>Myrtus communis</i> 	3-6 feet tall (or more with time) 2-5 feet spread 	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees (may burn in cold winter)	Slow-growing. Fragrant green foliage, small white flowers in early summer. Leaves may be green or yellow variegated. Blue berries in fall. Good hedge. Deer rating: 9/10	
Scotch Broom <i>Cytisus</i> 	5-6 feet tall 5-6 feet wide	Deciduous Hardy to 5 degrees	Lovely, long sprays of pea-like, yellow flowers in spring. Green branches have tiny green leaves. <i>Some varieties have red in flowers.</i> Deer rating: 9/10	
Mexican Orange <i>Choisya ternate</i>	6-8 feet tall 6-8 feet wide	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees	Soft green leaves have citrus scent when crushed, new growth is bright yellow. Fragrant white flowers cover the plant in late spring to early summer. Deer rating: 8/10	
Silverberry <i>Elaeagnus pungens</i> 	6-10 feet tall 6-10 feet wide 	Evergreen Hardy to 10 degrees	Fast-growing, big and beautiful shrub. Silvery-green foliage and small, fragrant, creamy-white flowers in fall. <i>'Gilt Edge' variety has yellow variegated leaves</i> Deer rating: 9/10	

Holly <i>Ilex meserveae</i>	8-10 feet tall 6-8 feet wide	Evergreen Hardy to 0 degrees	Dense, blue green foliage. Leaves have spiny edges. Female varieties get bright red berries in winter if pollinated by a male variety nearby. Deer rating: 9/10	
Oleander <i>Nerium</i> 	8-12 feet tall 8-12 feet spread *dwarf varieties grow 2-4 feet tall/wide 	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees (may burn in cold winter)	Long-blooming flowers from early summer until a frost. Flowers red, pink or white (white grows fastest and largest). Toxic when ingested. Deer rating: 10/10	
Chaste Tree <i>Vitex agnus-castus</i> 	10-15 feet tall 10-15 feet spread 	Deciduous Hardy to minus 10 degrees	Green, five-fingered leaves & beautiful flower spikes in summer. Flowers can be purple or white <i>Dwarf varieties around 6 feet tall.</i> Deer rating: 7/10	
Pineapple Guava <i>Feijoa sellowiana</i> 	12-15 feet tall 12-15 feet spread 	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees	Grey-green leaves similar to olive leaf. Red and white (edible) flowers in early summer. Edible fruit in December. Deer rating: 8/10	



→ this symbol indicates plants that can survive drought once established. It typically takes 1-2 years of regular water for a new plant to be established. In general, plants look better with regular water, but drought-tolerant plants can survive times when water is not available.



→ this symbol indicates plants that are considered fire-wise, meaning that they are more resistant to wildfire due to their growth habits. Plants with this symbol were found online in lists of 'fire safe' plants.

California Native Options ↓

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Mountain Spirea <i>Spiraea densiflora</i> 	2-3 feet tall 2-3 feet wide 	Deciduous Hardy to minus 10 degrees	Green leaves on reddish stems. Fragrant, bright, rosy pink pompom flowers in summer. Fall color is a mix of reds & oranges. Deer rating: 9/10	
California Sagebrush <i>Artemisia californica</i> 	3-4 feet tall 3-4 feet wide 	Evergreen	Aromatic, grey-green, wispy foliage. Small, white, inconspicuous flowers in late summer. Deer rating: 9/10	
Pozo Blue Sage <i>Salvia x 'Pozo Blue'</i> 	3-4 feet tall 3-4 feet wide 	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees	Grey-green fragrant foliage. Tall, showy spikes of violet-blue flowers in summer. Loved by hummingbirds. Deer rating: 9/10	
California Buckwheat <i>Eriogonum fasciculatum foliosum</i> 	3-5 feet tall 3-5 feet wide 	Evergreen	Wispy green foliage. Showy flowers above foliage in late spring may be white or slightly pink. Flowers age to a rust color. Deer rating: 8/10	

Oregon Grape <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i> 	3-6 feet tall 2-5 feet wide 	Evergreen Hardy to minus 10 degrees	Glossy, leathery, holly-like green leaves turn reddish in the fall. Bright yellow flower clusters in spring. Blue-black berry in summer. Drought-tolerant once established, but looks best with moderate water. Deer rating: 9/10	
Coffeeberry <i>Rhamnus</i> 	4-6 feet tall 4-6 feet wide 	Evergreen Hardy to 5 degrees	Leathery, dark green leaves. Small yellow-green flowers attract pollinators. Showy berries start green and mature to red-black. Berries are loved by birds. Deer rating: 8/10	
Christmas Berry or Toyon <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i> 	6-8 feet tall 4-5 feet wide *can grow to 15+ feet tall with time	Evergreen Hardy to minus 5 degrees	Leathery, oval, toothed green leaves. White flowers in summer. Bright red berries in winter. Deer rating: 6/10 *protect from deer initially and/or until majority of plant is out of their reach	
Pacific Wax Myrtle <i>Myrica californica</i> 	10-20 feet tall 10-12 feet wide 	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees	Dense upright habit, glossy green leaves. Leaves have spicy aroma. Tiny reddish-yellow flowers are not very noticeable. Flowers ripen to brownish-purple berries in fall. Deer rating: 9/10	

